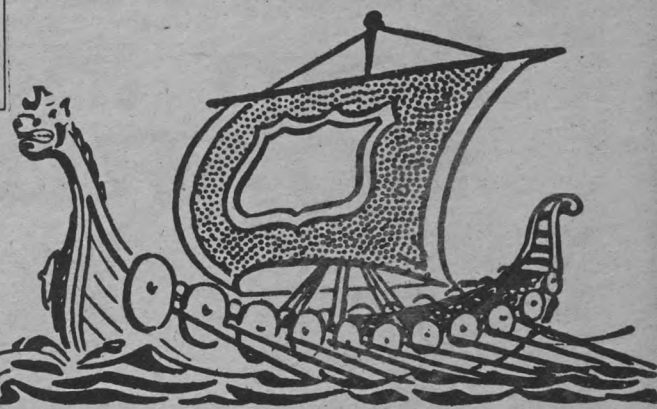


# Scandinavian Centre News



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June 1975

## CENTRE'S 11th ANNIVERSARY

### ALTA. CULTURAL HERITAGE MEETING

By Anne Sahuri

Representing Edmonton Finnish Society

The Cultural Heritage Council meeting took place in the new, beautiful Convention Centre in the heart of Calgary.

During the Friday night meeting we had the chance to meet the Calgary representatives. It was my pleasure to meet and talk with Aino Korvela who represented the Finnish people of Calgary.

The purpose of the Friday meeting was to inform the Calgary groups of the activities of the Council, to introduce new Council members and to allow the Calgary groups to raise issues and express their concerns to the Council as a whole.

The Friday meeting was opened by Chairman Laurence Decore who introduced Dr. Kandler, Dr. Monod, Minister Horst Schmid, Minister without Portfolio Stewart McRae, Mr. Muscrae, Mr. Kushnir and others. The Hon. Horst Schmid spoke briefly of the importance of different cultural aspects being reserved and kept for the future generations to enjoy. The meeting was lively with many

individuals raising interesting issues on different cultural aspects as well as on discrimination in some areas.

Saturday was a busy day with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and the plenary session at 9 a.m., after which the different committees met. Fifty-five elected representatives and eleven government - appointed representatives took part in the April 26 meeting.

Other Scandinavian countries were represented as follows:

DENMARK — Per Nielsen  
ICELAND — Della Roland  
NORWAY — Astrid Hope  
SWEDEN — Linnea Lodge

Following are the names of the executive as of April 26, 1975:

CHAIRMAN  
Dr. Pierre Monod  
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT  
Mrs. Norma Ellis  
2ND VICE-CHAIRMAN  
Mr. R. Wekherlien

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### MOTHER of the Year

By Elmer Kankkunen

About 500 people had a real feast at the Mothers Day Smorg held May 11 at the Scandinavian Centre. Guests were greeted at the door and escorted to their tables by two beautiful girls, Inga Nielsen, our reigning Scandinavian Centre Queen, and Janna Geitel, from the Finnish Society also a former Queen. The girls were assisted in their



INGA NIELSEN, Mrs. MARION HANSEN and PER NIELSEN.

reception duties by Peter Elander, Scandinavian Centre manager, and Per Nielsen, Centre Vice-President. All mothers were given corsages and all adults were served wine to go with the fabulous spread laid out by Stella Kassian and her staff. In spite of the large attendance, a system of staggered reservations resulted in a smooth flow of guests. Per Nielsen deserves full credit for organizing this very successful event.

The highlight of the day was the announcement of the winner of the Mother of the Year contest who was Mrs. Marion Hansen. She was presented with a scroll by Per Nielsen, and her family were treated to the Mothers Day dinner, courtesy of the Scandinavian Centre. The winner was selected on the basis of letters sent in by sons and daughters of all ages. The judges had a very difficult task in

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### HORST SCHMID TO RECEIVE SHARE

By Eileen Peterson

"11" seems to be the magic number for your Scandinavian Centre!

The first meetings of a small number of people who had a dream—a Scandinavian Centre—were held in 1953, 22 years ago. With faith in the Scandinavian community, a great deal of imagination and ingenuity, and lots and lots of patience and hard work, these people proceeded to try to make the dream a reality.

Their spirit was infectious, and their faith in their fellow Scandinavians was not misplaced. Hundreds of shares were bought and we were finally able to purchase 5.3 acres of land and contract to have the Centre built.

In 1964, 11 years after those original meetings, we proudly opened our beautiful Centre!

Another 11 years have now gone by, and once again the Centre is on the move. We are going to expand, and the Board of Directors is hard at work on the project.

We are looking forward to having you enjoy the excellent dinner which is planned, along with Scandinavian entertainment for your pleasure, and dancing and visiting for the rest of the evening.

One of the feature events of the evening will be the presentation of a share in the Scandinavian Centre to the Hon. Horst Schmid, Minister of Culture for the Province of Alberta. This share was donated by the Ethnic Press Section of the Department of the Secretary of State in Ottawa. The Ethnic Press Section wished to subscribe to the Scandinavian Centre News at the time when it was necessary to be a shareholder to receive the paper. We therefore received the cost of the share from that Department, but as they were not allowed to hold a share in any organization, they asked that the Board of Directors choose an out-

standing citizen in the community and present the share to that person on their behalf. In view of the



The Hon. HORST SCHMID

assistance which Mr. Schmid and his Department have rendered to the ethnic groups in Alberta, including our own, it was the unanimous decision of the Board to give recognition to Mr. Schmid's contributions to ethnic culture by presenting him with this share on behalf of the Ethnic Press Section. We know you will enjoy meeting Mr. and Mrs. Schmid.

The Scandinavian Centre stands as a symbol of what can be accomplished with determination and co-operation. We can all be proud of our part in it—so come out and let's celebrate together—let's mark the occasion with Scandinavian fellowship and fun! See you there! □

### Moose Jaw

### Scandinavian Club Formed

By Christine Ellingson

The Moose Jaw Scandinavian Club in Saskatchewan was organized in October 1974. The first social event was a Christmas party. This was a Scandinavian smorgasbord and dance on December 12. Tickets for this event were at a premium, as the hall could only accommodate 160 people. Many were disappointed at not being able to attend.

Dances were organized for February and April, with capacity crowds. We hold general meetings regularly on the last Monday of each month, serving coffee and doughnuts at the close of the meeting.

Our next project is our

participation in "Canada Week", June 21 to July 1. June 21 will feature a big parade. Our Scandinavian Club is entering a float, a Viking Ship, being designed by our Vice-President, Odin Vevang. It will carry a

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# SPLINTERS from the BOARD

By Sol E. Sigurdson

Actually, the May board meeting was a rather dull affair. For the most part, we were so excited about the Mother's Day Dinner that I guess we felt we didn't have to do any more work this month. The dinner was very well attended and especially well organized. Personally, I like a drier wine but it's pretty hard to satisfy the tastes of 500 people. Anyone who missed it had better, right now, circle May 9, 1976, for next year's dinner. It has got to be the best meal in town and for hospitality and atmosphere for Mother's Day, it cannot be beaten. I suspect we may have gone in the hole financially, but I am certainly going to vote in favour of continuing the affair when it comes up at the board meeting. If you have any thoughts on this matter, I would like to hear them. In the meantime, we'll see you there next year—just grab your highchair and come.

One important decision we made at the meeting was to hold the Centre Queen Contest next fall, in connection with the Norwegian Country and Western Dance. This is in line with our new policy of trying to keep our functions up to a reasonable number of people so as to make the rooms pay for themselves. The combined event should bring in up to 250 people which is a satisfactory number for the Viking Room. Also in line with this policy, we have instituted a sliding scale for the rental of the rooms. You can get the details of this from the manager. (See the column in this issue, "From the Manager's Desk" by Peter Elander.)

I was pleased to hear remarks about the excellent job being done by Les Greenham in his reporting on Centre news over CFCW on the "Scandinavian Show". Les is always happy to receive any news that you think might be of interest to listeners.

Yours truly had some exciting news about Scandapades '76. He also had some bad news. The bad news was that the request for volunteers from various ethnic groups to form a Scandapades committee has gone unheeded. We must have a representative from every group. Scandapades is the one event where we need total participation. If you would like to serve, phone your ethnic group's president and tell him so and then phone me. That's the bad news; the exciting news must wait until the sought-after committee agrees with it.

Finally, I am pleased to report on an event attended by most of the directors. The Centre was host to the first meeting of the Klondike Days Association chairmen. There are some forty different committees that run K-Days. Of course, I'm not allowed to let out any secrets of their plans, but I can report that it was an exciting experience to see so many volunteers working to improve our community. I'm sure the K-Days group was equally impressed with our facilities, organization and our Scandinavian food. The light lunch that was served was certainly the hit of the evening. Of course, in true K-Days fashion the plans are bigger and better than ever. BUT we are still not getting very far on our float. I mentioned my idea, which I told of in the last Splinters, to the "Float Chairman" and his response was, "Please pass the krumkaker". Anyway, K-Days, we're all looking forward to July 16.

A continuing focus of attention of the board is Centre Expansion. We need your reaction to any ideas so that we will "expand" in the direction that you want to go. Or perhaps you feel the Centre is doing an adequate job as it stands. The board will treat any communication on this matter with utmost respect. So put your ideas down and send them to me or to any other director. □

## FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK

By Peter Elander

It is getting better and better.

April was a month when good things did happen.

Our Centre was used 18 times at no charge for meetings, singing and other things. This is the greatest number of times the Centre has been used since I started as Manager. Right away I am hoping for the use of the Centre even more times. Thirty times sounds good to me, that is just an average of once a day. What I am

really trying to say is: The Centre is yours, let us use it more often.

I had the opportunity to speak to the Junior Lodge Sons of Norway in April. It was a thrill to meet some of our young people. But we have many more young people within our ethnic groups. I hope we can find more ways to get all these people involved. What should we do? I need some advise.

The meetings with the ethnic groups are getting better and better. The

results from these meetings are priceless to me. At least this is the way I feel about it.

Ideas and information are passed around and shared. The co-operation between the ethnic groups has improved.

It was a real treat for me to have the ladies from the five ethnic groups working together in the kitchen, each of them being proud of showing what their country has to offer in the way of food.

All this food was served to the leaders of the Klondike Days Association on Tuesday evening, May 13. The comments I got from all these people when they said good night really made me feel good to be your Manager. Ladies, again you all did a fine job, this did help to get us even better known in the Edmonton community.

To get a better use of our Centre a proposal was presented to the Centre board at their last meeting. This proposal was approved. So please take notice of the changes. Right away, there have been no increases in the rent for the ethnic groups for the last 1 1/2 years. Please take note: If your Centre is used well, there is in fact then no or very little increase in the rent.

### RENTAL CHARGES

#### Viking Room

Basic Rent — \$150.00 minimum number of persons 100. Corkage must be paid for this amount.  
101-124 persons — \$140.00  
125-149 persons — \$135.00  
150 and over — \$130.00 (increase of \$5.00 only).

#### Nordic Room

Basic Rent — \$75.00 minimum number of persons 50. If liquor is served, corkage charges will be for a minimum of 50 persons.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

Olaf SVEEN, Edmonton — \$2.00

Aksel Green, Edmonton — \$5.00

Mrs. Fred SKOOG, Lethbridge — \$2.00

Mr. & Mrs. Henry TROTHIR, Edmonton — \$3.00

Mr. and Mrs. Magnus PEARSON, Edmonton — \$3.00

Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. KORTZMAN, Edmonton — \$5.00

SHAREHOLDER, Eugene, Oregon — \$5.00

Roy MAXWELL, Edmonton — \$2.00

MOOSE JAW SCANDINAVIAN CLUB, Moose Jaw, Sask. — \$10.00

Mr. and Mrs. Walter CARLSON, Beatty, Sask. — \$5.00

— \$5.00

— \$5.00

— \$5.00

— \$5.00

— \$5.00

— \$5.00

— \$5.00

— \$5.00

— \$5.00

51-74 persons — \$70.00  
75-99 persons — \$65.00  
100 or over — \$60.00 (less \$5.00 than before).

#### Dania Room

Basic Rent — \$30.00, no discount. (Increase \$45.00 only).

If any of the ethnic groups are using the Centre kitchen in a manner where the Centre cannot be used for other activities the rent will be \$200.00.

I would like to point out: The pricing has been set up in a manner where the ethnic groups are using the Centre proper they will be getting a break. And that is the way it should be. □

### A WEDDING PRAYER

God, give them length of days to live together  
Upon this earth; and lend them grace, we pray,  
To keep in dignity and peace and splendor  
This bright new house that they have built today.

And teach them, God, on this, their bridal morning,  
To walk love's path, with fearless eyes—brave, gay;  
To know that two who bear all things together  
Will build a house that will not pass away.

H. Welshimer

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Erling Winquist  
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### LIST OF NAMES OF PRESIDENTS OF SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETIES IN EDMONTON

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SWEDISH — Leonard Eliasson, 13011 - 135 Street, 455-9457  
SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE — Harvey Haugen, 8806 - 162 Street, 489-1171 & 425-3817

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Scandinavian groups, societies, organizations, associations or clubs may receive the paper by sending a list of members' names and addresses. A mailing charge of 6¢ per copy will be charged. This payment and other correspondence should be addressed to: The Scandinavian Centre News 10203 - 78 Street Edmonton, Alberta T6A 3E2

#### DIRECTOR

Stan Hafso  
11739 - 38A Avenue, Edmonton  
Res. 435-8964 — Bus. 479-2036

#### MANAGING EDITOR

Leslie L. Morris  
10203-10205 - 78 Street, Edmonton  
Phone 469-8854

#### CORRESPONDENTS

Danish Society DANIA  
Lili Nielsen  
3903-111A St., Edmonton 435-5655

ICELANDIC SOCIETY of Edmonton  
Les Greenham  
10424-142 St., Edmonton 455-0082

LEIF EIRIKSSON Icelandic Club  
Björgvin Sigurdson  
6303 Lynch Cr. S.W., Calgary

FINNISH SOCIETY of Edmonton  
Elmer Kankkunen  
3304-106 Ave., Edmonton 477-6751

Sons of Norway SOLGLYT  
Betty Broen  
10643-43 St., Edmonton 466-8461

Sons of Norway  
NORTHERN LIGHTS  
Shirley Olson  
Box 36, Sexsmith, Alberta

Sons of Norway RONNING  
Florence Nickolson  
Camrose, Alberta

Vasa Lodge SKANDIA  
Millie Weiss  
11432-85 St., Edmonton 477-7553

Vasa Lodge BUFORD  
Dolores Johnson  
RR1 Warburg, Alberta T0C 2T0

Vasa Lodge NORDSTJARNAN  
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# SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT



By Orla Tychsen

Congratulations and best wishes to **Robin Skarbo**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Skarbo, on his marriage to **Dianne McGregor** on May 3 at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church.

Also congratulations and best wishes to Mrs. Tora Anderson, mother of Anders and Inge, who celebrated her 75th birthday May 3. Her family put on a surprise birthday dinner in her honor with many old friends attending. A beautiful cake complete with 75 candles centred the table. One of the nicest gifts she received was the surprise arrival of son Njall from Winnipeg.

Mrs. Hilma Bukvi and her mother, Mrs. Tillie Johnson, flew to Fargo, N.D. and Minneapolis, Minn. recently to celebrate Mrs. Johnson's 90th birthday with her 92-year-old sister and 88-year-old brother. Congratulations are certainly in store for them. How many of us will be flying at 90? The Bukvis have relatives arriving from Marisjøra, Norway, May 18. VELKOMMEN.

Our sympathy is extended to the Storheim families in the sudden passing of their mother, Mrs. Nancy Storheim, wife of the late Knut Storheim who was an honorary member of Solglyt Lodge.

Also our sympathy to the Aslin and Herstad families in the passing of their mother, Mrs. Julianne Herstad. Mrs. Herstad was an honorary member and was active in the Lodge for a number of years.

Mrs. Molly Copper enjoyed a ten-day holiday, first flying to Kelowna, B.C. to visit her sister, Gladys, and family and then traveling by car with a niece to Trail, B.C. to visit another sister, Anna Vyse.

Cultural Director Astrid Hope has once more put on one of her usual artistic Norwegian culture displays, this time at the Hadassah Bazaar. She was very unfortunate though in having her Norwegian jewellery and rose malling stolen from her display—our sympathies. Astrid, her mother, Mrs. Lydia Tagseth of Govan, Sask. and sister, Myrtle Sadar, of Kamloops, B.C. left May 12 for a month holiday to Stavanger and other parts of Norway.

On our sick list are Mr. Bob Burt who has been in hospital, Kalmar Amdam who had the misfortune of having ligaments torn in his leg March 21 and is still hobbling around on crutches and Mrs. Johanna Reno who is a patient in the Allen Gray Auxiliary Hospital. Selma

Sorenson who visited her recently reports Johanna would be pleased to have Lodge visitors. We wish them all well.

Out-of-town guests at Sig Sorenson's recently were Mr. and Mrs. Norman Johnson, Clifford Johnson and Jean Hunter of Chauvin and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nelson of McLaughlin, Alta.

Sharon Sorenson enjoyed a 2-week fishing trip to Gervis Inlet up the coast from Vancouver. She was fishing for prawns but the catch was poor. Better luck next time, Sharon. She will be attending six weeks of summer school at the university this summer.

Randi Tychsen was one of a class of 25 to be confirmed at St. Luke's Lutheran Church May 18. Also confirmed in the same class was Bill Zelensky, son of Mrs. Ruth Zelensky.

The sewing club had a pleasant outing when they traveled to Stony Plain to tour the Multicultural Centre there. An old brick school has been converted into an interesting historic memorial to Alberta's heritage. (See article about this Centre elsewhere in this issue—Ed.)

The next Torske Klubben meeting will be held on the evening of June 3, 1975. This is a father-son function so, all you members, be sure to attend.

## LITERARY COMPETITION FOR YOUTH OF SONS OF NORWAY

A competition will be held for the best essay on "Why I would have liked to have been on the sloop, 'Restauration', in 1825".

Here's your chance, boys and girls, to spring forth some of our inherited Viking adventurousness into writing.

The following are the requisites for the contest:

1. Parents must be members of Sons of Norway.
2. Must be up to 16 years of age.

3. Each entry will be judged on originality, contents, presentation and neatness.

4. Entries must be in by September 15, 1975 to Mrs. Astrid Hope, Cultural Director of Sons of Norway, 6307 - 103A Ave., Edmonton. Suitable judges will be selected and the winner will be presented with the prize chosen on the occasion of Leif Erikson Night, October 4, 1975.

If at anytime you're bored during the summer holidays, just imagine being on the sloop for those long weeks, and, then, put it into writing. Good luck! Boys and Girls.

Next month's correspondent will be Doreen Melsness, phone 487-3626.

## Norwegian Immigration, 1825

By Astrid Hope

One hundred and fifty years ago July 4 will stand out as the beginnings of Norwegian immigration to America. It has presented in itself the outward aspects of a simple story.

A half hundred Norwegians who had learned something about America, purchased a sloop of less than 50 tons, set sail on a summer's day in 1825 from a harbour on the southwestern coast of Norway — Stavanger — and after being tossed about on the sea some fourteen weeks, reached the gateway of the Promised Land.

Clegg Pearson has been designated as the "Father of Norwegian Immigration", the advance agent "of the immigrants of 1825, the pathfinder for Norwegian settlement in the west and the most influential leader of the entire movement in its earlier stages".

There were varied reasons for the cause which made the Norwegians migrate at that time. It could have been for economic reasons, also for religious reasons. The following are some early letters written by immigrants to their loved ones left in Norway which tell of the great story, including Clegg Pearson's. Some letters praising America, letters condemning; letters expressing cautious, tentative judgments; letters reflecting special local conditions, some encouraging, some pessimistic.

### CLEGG PEARSON'S LETTER

New York, December 20, 1824

Dear Father, Brother, Sister, Brother-in-law and Friends:

I let you know that I have arrived in America happy and well. After a journey of six weeks we reached New York, where I found all my friends in good health and they received me very affectionately. We remained there five days; then we took the steamboat, "William Penn" for Albany, which is 150 miles, that is 30 Norwegian miles, it cost 2 dollars for each of us and we also received free board, where we arrived in 24 hours. Later we went to Troy and then westward through the great canal 200 miles to Salina Salt Works, paying our way by working; thereafter we took another boat and we went the rest of the way to my friends in Farmington (Farmington), where I left my comrade. I then went overland to Geneva, where the land commissioner lives, to buy land for myself and for you, as previously discussed. The land commissioner is very friendly, and has promised to give us as much aid as possible. We reached an agreement in regard to six pieces of land which I

have selected, and shall be held for us til next fall. I already have a house in process of building, 12 ells

Continued on Page 11

## Julianne Herstad Passes Away

On April 30, 1975, Mrs. Julianne Herstad, widow of Julius Herstad, passed away in her 90th year. She was born in Mo, Northern Norway and immigrated to Canada with her husband and family in 1911. They homesteaded in the Lac La Nonne area before moving to Edmonton in 1920.

She was an honorary member of Central Lutheran Church and Solglyt Lodge in which she took an active part for many years. More recently she belonged to the Senior Citizens and Friendship Clubs which she enjoyed until her health began failing her.

She leaves to mourn her loss one daughter, Mrs. L. (Alice) Aslin, of Edmonton, 3 sons, Tom, of Niagara Falls, Ont., Evald, of Vancouver, B.C. and Jim, of Edmonton, 13 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren, one sister, Mrs. Johanna Jacobsen, of Bergen, Norway, one brother, Paul Jacobsen, of Salten, Norway, and a sister-in-law, Mrs. Rakel Jacobsen, of Salten. Mrs. Herstad was predeceased by 3 daughters, Mrs. Esther Haakenstad, in 1938, Mrs. Judith Bailie, in 1970, and Miss Ruth Herstad, in 1971.

Funeral services were held May 3 from Foster & McGarvey Funeral Chapel. Pastor A. W. Holmes officiating, with interment in the Edmonton Cemetery. □

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# ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

By Les Greenham  
DEAR READERS

The end of an era has arrived. Now maybe that is improper terminology. But it sounds good to me. The era we are referring to is the past two and a half years we have been your news correspondent and this is our last column. We must admit that we have enjoyed doing most of them and also a very encouraging factor was the compliments we received from time to time. However, the past few months we have found it to be a very tiresome task. In other words, we don't find it a pleasure like it used to be. Consequently this, our final edition, will be somewhat brief.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The first item of note—the Icelandic Society will hold the annual meeting on June 1 and, in conjunction with the meeting, will be the crowning of the new Fjallkona and also a few songs by the Saga Singers. Incidentally, our new Fjallkona will be none other than that wonderful personality known to us all by the monicker of Berky Letourneau from Spruce Grove. Congratulations, Berky, I know you will be a great Fjallkona. But I just can't see anybody being better than my wife, Thorey.

## MARKERVILLE PICNIC

Next, I see a notation by Thorey which says Markerville Picnic, June 14 with a dance in the evening. Personally we think that is too brief because, to me, it is more than just a picnic. It is the Alberta Islendingadagurinn. You know, it is strange to me, here am I with no Icelandic blood in my veins, that I know of anyway, and yet I think the Islendingadagurinn at Markerville is the premier event of the year and nothing could make me happier than to see it become the biggest event in Alberta. At the moment we do have one disappointment and that is that in the last column we mentioned that Bryan Vigfusson said he would muster up a fast-ball team to challenge Calgary and Markerville and we would be pleased to hear some comments in this regard. Well, we have had no reaction. However, be that as it may, last year's event was a tremendous success and if you missed it, be sure you don't miss it this year.

## BILL LAXDAL

At this point we would like to reprint part of an article, with their permission, from the Edmonton Journal about Bill Laxdal whose parents are members of the Icelandic Society.

## 1,200 DONORS HELPING TO KEEP CITY YOUTH ALIVE

By Vicki Barnett

Bleeding uncontrollably, an Edmonton youth is hurried

to hospital emergency. He was studying too hard.

About once a week, Bill Laxdal, 15, will end up at the hospital with non-stop bleeding started by a bruised arm, strenuous physical exertion, too much tension, a cut or a twisted ankle.

One of a relatively rare breed lacking a clotting factor in his blood, Mr. Laxdal is among 80 Edmonton hemophiliacs who depend on their lifeline, the Red Cross, for sufficient blood.

And their requirements are large.

Says Mr. Laxdal: "I need at least 1,200 blood donations a year to assist me. I get a bleed once a week, maybe more, and usually need two injections of cryo-precipitate to stop it." Each injection includes the clotting extract from 12 units of blood, and each donor usually gives one unit at a time.

The Grade 10 student at Harry Ainlay School calls himself a classical hemophiliac suffering the "most common, most severe" form of the inherited blood problem which almost always appears in men.

"For people like me, lying in bed is the safest thing to do. If I even bang my arm too hard going through a door it will swell, become painful, and could eventually result in damaged joints if blood is collected there long enough. A normal person will have a blood clot in the arm within two or three minutes before he even notices the new bruise, but I don't stop bleeding. So I have to go to the hospital and get an injection."

Dancing is the most strenuous exercise he feels he can undertake safely. "I can get involved in some of the easier sports such as badminton and swimming. I also have stamps, a model railway . . . and I have a big problem finding people to play strategy games because I get so good at them."

When he gets a full-time job, "it will have to be work where I can literally sit at my desk because quite often a hemophiliac needs splints, slings or crutches."

His mother, Linda Laxdal, says: "A lot of hemophiliacs have bleeding into the joints, and if it happens too much, they're supposed to use crutches or splints to put the area at rest. Bill wore a half-splint on his right leg for 10 years."

Whether he takes a trip to the dentist or out of the country, Mr. Laxdal has to pack along his cryo-precipitate. In Canada, he can phone ahead to assure it is available, but because blood in some areas of the U.S. costs up to \$30 a unit, he takes his own. "If we lived in the U.S., we would pile up debts and go broke,

we'd be on welfare," says Mr. Laxdal.

\*\*\*

## EASTERN TRIP

According to the grapevine, or in other words the telephone, we learned that recently Mr. and Mrs. Garth Ross took a trip down east which lasted just a little over two weeks. They travelled by car and we assume probably the Canadian way. They spent the best part of this holiday visiting with Linda's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Demers, in Ottawa. One of the highlights while visiting in Ottawa was sitting in on a question and answer period in the House of Commons which they found extremely interesting. From there they went to Toronto for a short stay and then to Gimli, Man., where they visited Linda's in-laws who, of course, must have been the Ross family. They also, of course, visited some old friends there. The Rosses had planned on going to the Gimli celebration but her brother decided to tie the knot on July 19 and this occasion, naturally, is the more important one. Now that your holiday is over, Garth and Linda, we say welcome home.

## OTHER ITEMS

Congratulations to Tom and Sandra Thorvaldson on the arrival of Brady Thomas on April 6, 1975, weight 7 lbs. 5 oz. Skafti and Fjola Thorvaldson from Winnipeg spent a few days with Tom and Sandra to welcome their first grandchild.

Clara Jonsson has recently undergone surgery at the Misericordia Hospital and was prematurely discharged due to the strike at the hospital. The first few days at home were quite a hardship, however, we are happy to report that she is now recuperating nicely. One event that happened during this trying time was young Ivan getting his nose broken at a baseball practise. However, he survived this disaster and is back playing ball again.

By the time this paper reaches you, Gus and Della Roland will have returned from a three-week tour of England and other parts of Europe. The prime purpose of this trip was that Gus was chosen as a representative for the Masonic Conference in England.

Congratulations, Solli Sigurdson! In conjunction with the centennial celebration at Gimli, Man., this year, C.B.C. is making a documentary on the Canadian Icclander going back after 100 years in search of his roots. Solli Sigurdson has been chosen to make this trip to Iceland. His wife, Shirley, is going with him along with the C.B.C. crew. They will be leaving June 15 via Chicago for a 2-week stay. The actual format of the documentary has not been determined but the

## Islendingadagurinn

### Song Writing

### Contest

Entries are being accepted for a song writing competition open to anyone of Icelandic descent.

The winning composition will be announced at the 1975 Festival in Gimli and the composer will receive a prize of \$100.

### RULES

1. The song should have both original music and lyrics (in English) and be unpublished at the time of submission.

2. Each composition submitted may be written for piano (the melody line indicating chord progressions and the lyrics) or recorded on tape.

3. Participants may submit three compositions.

4. No entries will be returned.

5. The directors of the contest reserve the right to withhold the prize.

6. Compositions must be received at the following address by July 1, 1975:

Karen Vopnfjord  
1206 Dominion Street  
Winnipeg, Man. R3E 2P7 □

## Back to Canada

By Olaf Sveen

Our mission in Seattle over, we were heading back to Canada again—we were heading for home. The United States is a great country, there is none greater, but Canada is home to me now just as Norway once was.

Driving along on the highway, I was thinking back on all that had happened in the hectic days in Seattle, such as for instance the fellow

focus will be to see what his forefathers left and to compare the style of life in Iceland to that of Canadians.

### NOTE

The Saga Singers will be chartering a bus to go to the Islendingadagurinn in Gimli the first weekend in August. Anyone interested in reserving a seat on this bus please contact any member of the executive of the Icelandic Society or any of the Saga Singers.

### CLOSING REMARKS

We would like to close this, our final edition, with most appreciative heartfelt thanks to all those people who took the time to provide me with news items over the past years. I sincerely hope that these people, along with others, will make a point of assisting the new correspondent, whoever he or she may be, as we have found from experience that it is difficult to assemble a good news column without some co-operation. Thank you for all your compliments. Till we meet again, "Gotha Note". □

## ICELANDIC

### POWER

By Gunnar Thorvaldson

There is a proliferation of power buttons in the U.S.A.—black power, women power, etc. In order to keep up with the trend, Mrs. Gudmundson of Minneapolis designed an Icelandic power button.

The button is 2 1/4 inches across (5 1/2 cm.) and in four colours. The words, "ICELANDIC POWER", are printed over an erupting mountain. A red lava stream divides near the top of the mountain to make up the letter "A" in the word "Icelandic".

The buttons are fifty cents each and are available from Gunnar Thorvaldson, the membership chairman for the Icelandic Society of Edmonton.

Gunnar also advises that if you have not paid your 1975 dues to the Icelandic Society, this will be your last copy of the Scandinavian Centre News. □

in a restaurant who said he mistook me for Henry Kissinger, not too bad a guy to be a look-alike. I know accordion playing is infinitely difficult and I could name several other ways easier to make a living, but to be the Secretary of State in such a big and powerful country as U.S.A. must certainly be a nerve-racking job. Of course the man in the restaurant did not really mean that I looked like Kissinger—the Americans like to kid about their great men, which is alright in a democratic country.

I used to live under a regime one time where talking lightly about the big brass was frowned upon, not only was it frowned upon, it was definitely unhealthy, maybe in some cases even deadly. Let us be thankful that North America is not like that.

Driving along on the highway is a good time to reflect and think. I had read in a newspaper that "spitoons" are getting popular again, this time as ornaments. I can imagine many people nowadays only have a vague idea what a spittoon is, but I remember clearly. Most of them were made of brass, and were meant to spit in. They were especially prominent in places like churches, school houses, community halls and so on, but were also used in private homes. Those were the days when "snus" or snuff was very popular, and people used to spit all over the place. In the winter time a man would be easy to track down—you could tell where he had been travelling by all the spit in the white snow. When a man came to visit, he would sit on a chair and he would talk and he would spit in all directions, but mostly in a half circle in front of him,

Continued on Page 10



# VASA LODGE SKANDIA



By Millie Weiss

Leonard Eliasson chaired the May 3rd meeting which was held in the Dania Room at 7 p.m. with a good attendance.

The following were initiated and welcomed to the lodge:

Helmer, Jenny and Dean Dahlsiede, Bob Lewis, Veryl Anderson, Al Anderson, Marvis Satern, Oliver Satern.

Lunch was served by Astrid Winquist and Mildred Anderson.

Get Well Wishes go out to Alma Samuelson, Lillie Boyer and Marjorie Correll.

Sonja Berkstrom is our newly appointed Cultural Leader.

Violet Watson and her daughter, Alyson, flew to California for the Easter holidays. They spent two days in Las Vegas staying at the Circus Hotel. A supper show, a midnight show and a tour out to Hoover Dam were part of the entertainment there. Then on to Anaheim for seven days where they visited Disneyland, Los Angeles, Long Beach, San Diego and Tijuana, Mexico. The shopping was great and the sight-seeing enjoyable.

Cliff and Marta Dahl have returned home after spending three months in San Fernando, Calif., visiting with their daughter, Connie, and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. R. Stride. While there they had an unpleasant experience—a burglar had entered their home while out shopping. They also visited at Solvagn (Little Denmark), also flew to Seattle to see their son, Verne, and wife, Carol, and Ross and Marylin. Marta and Cliff had been home a few days when a nephew, Bertil Nystrom, arrived from Sweden—an engineer with a Swedish radio production.

The coffee party that was held at Molson House by the Vasa Auxiliary was a huge success and thanks to all the ones who helped and attended. Following are the lucky winners:

Carl Leander won the cake.

1ST DOOR PRIZE

Frank Dodd

2ND DOOR PRIZE

Mary Pearson

The bowling wind-up was held at the Athlone Community Hall on May 10. Presentation of trophies and new executive took place.

1ST PLACE WINNERS

Captain J. Dahlsiede, M. Weiss, D. Dahlsiede, Brian Webber, D. Smart, (E. Weiss).

2ND PLACE WINNERS

C. Berg, H. Berg, M. Donald, D. Bough, L. Netherley.

## MEN'S HIGH AVERAGE

A. Welda.

## MEN'S HIGH TRIPLE

C. Leander.

## MEN'S HIGH SINGLE

R. Engstrom.

## LADIES' HIGH AVERAGE

D. Pearson.

## LADIES' HIGH TRIPLE

Lynn Engstrom

## LADIES' HIGH SINGLE

C. Samuelson.

## INDIVIDUAL TROPHY FOR THE LOWEST SCORE

C. Gagne.

A special thanks to Art and Shirley Welda, and Shirley Berg for a job well done.

On Monday evening, May 12, about thirty friends gathered at the home of Betty Pearson for a surprise coffee party to honour her on her 75th birthday. Audrey Eliasson pinned a corsage of yellow mums and blue bachelor buttons on her dress, and a beautiful birthday cake centred the table. Coffee and a delicious lunch were served. Gertrude Jolmgren read a short story about Betty's life, and Glen Eliasson presented her with a gift of cash on behalf of her many friends.

Betty Pearson wishes to thank all her nice friends who came over with gifts and goodies to help celebrate her birthday, also for the most interesting write-up of her past that Gertrude Holmgren composed and read. Was also so nice to have "our daughter, Marjorie Correll, here from Vancouver to help celebrate Mothers Day and my birthday".

## COMING EVENTS

Next meeting will be held at Vasa Club at Pigeon Lake at 7:30 p.m., June 7.

The dance that was to be held after this meeting has been postponed until a later date. Tom and Deanne Pearson are very sorry for this delay.

Milton and Virgie Fawcett, Ken and Helen McEvoy wish to remind friends and members that the Klondike Dance will be held on July 12 instead of July 5.

Dessert Party on June 22, 2-4 p.m. Hansine and Linnea Lodge.

Country Store — Evelyn Johnson and Minnie Markstrom.

The picnic and dinner will be held as advertised, June 8. Sid Johnson for the picnic and E. Hokanson for the dinner. □

Logberg-Heimskringla (an Icelandic paper), published an article on immigration and made references to the Green Paper on Immigration.

## Betty Pearson's 75th Birthday Story

By Gertrude Holmgren

As I look back into my memory, I recall the day I joined our Vasa Order. That was the first time that I met Betty. The meeting ended, lunch was served, someone picked up an accordion and we danced a few dances, but the thing that stands out in my mind is Betty dancing with her dad. He was a very big man.

That was 40 years ago and Betty was then a young mother of four. Some of them were teenagers and some in their preteens. Children's club was organized about this time and the meetings were held at Betty's home.

Like Ally Oop, Betty was born in the land of Ma in Jamtland, Sweden, and came to Canada as a young girl. Language was a problem for new-comers to Canada and so it was in the Skoog household. On one occasion Ma Skoog wanted some "fär kott" for supper, but no one knew what it was called in English. Some Swedish friends said it was called "sheep meat"; so Betty went off with a quarter to buy sheep meat. The butcher asked: "Do you want sheep meat or cheap meat?" Betty thought for a minute or two and decided that cheap meat sounded better so that's what she wanted.

The butcher questioned her decision but Betty was determined and so she came home with a large package of cheap meat. No doubt about it, she was very proud of her purchase. Mother didn't think too well of it but Betty wouldn't return it. Drains or no drains, supper was late that day as Pa Skoog had to exchange the meat when he got home.

Later, Betty sold ice cream at Wetaskiwin. I don't know, but maybe that is when she met Magnus. She has a brother, Fred, and she used him as an excuse to get out to meet Magnus. Boy, was she ever mad at him when he wouldn't go out with her so she could meet Magnus. Pa Skoog was quite strict and when Magnus came calling, he would "Hrmf, Hrmf" at about 10 o'clock, wind the clock and drop his suspenders from his shoulders. Somehow I don't think Magnus always took the hint.

Magnus and Betty have lived in their present home since 1926. It's been a home where friends have always been welcome. There are many who have adopted Betty as their mother away from home.

When Betty was expecting Ernie, she went shopping one day and, not feeling too well, went to the Webster home in Calder. Mr. Webster phoned Dr. Cameron and when Mrs. Webster came home she found Betty and her new born son had arrived for a two-week visit. After that, birthday

parties started. There were birthday parties for every youngster in the family—cousins, second cousins, etc. Then when the children got older there were birthday parties for the oldsters. Christmas eve parties were always held at their house throughout the years.

One of her pastimes is writing poetry. Poetry for birthdays and Mother's Day and she has composed Camp-Week songs. She has organized many a treasure hunt during children's week, and when Betty goes walking at Vasa Park there are some who suspect she's up to something. She's had innumerable pleasures from the tricks she has played on people.

She was secretary of the lodge for many years and children's week leader for most of our Camp Weeks. Although some of us worried about getting enough help at camp she always said, "Oh, there'll be enough," and somehow there always were enough helpers.

We've admired her for her leadership. Chairman of Ladies Auxiliary for more years than I can recall, but she never leads us in song. We wonder why. Her voice is clear and strong, never needs a mike, regardless of where she speaks. We could have used her in our choir, but then she might have set the world on fire. She was a drummer once and led the band right into the I.O.O.F. Temple and up onto the stage.

Betty has pickled gallons of herring, fried thousands of pounds of meat balls and made hundreds of pounds of sylta. Baked coffee bread, rye bread and tunnbröd and even had her picture in the Journal once, along with her recipe for tunnbröd. Recipe? Her recipes are usually a bit of this, a pinch of that and a handful

of something else.

One member of the opposite sex once proclaimed his love for her at one of our regular meetings. This great love must be the reason the Vasa Sisters receive such generous donations from him.

Betty likes to dress up funny and used to do a lot of monologues and, as a Swedish old maid in high top boots and red and white striped socks, used to entertain us quite regularly.

Besides their two sons and two daughters they have a whole baseball team plus one, of grandsons and two granddaughters plus eleven great grandchildren. Now, Betty and Magnus spend their winters in Vancouver and California. When they don't have anything else to do, they are bird watchers.

Our friend whom we've come to honour today has organized many a potluck supper and that is why we thought a potluck coffee party would be fun for her 75th birthday.

Betty once told me that if she had had the opportunity she would have liked to have been a lawyer, even watched Perry Mason on the French station. I think we all like Betty the way she is and she probably wouldn't have time for all those fun things if she had become a lawyer.

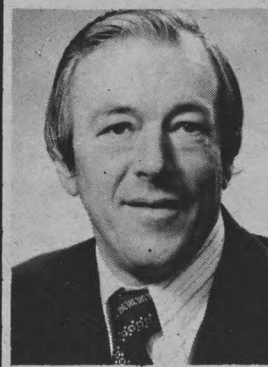
Betty, we wish you a Very Happy Birthday and may you have many more.

Love from all of us. □

## THE PEOPLE OF ALBERTA

Museumobile, produced by the Provincial Museum of Alberta presents the diversity and continuing traditions which give Alberta a unique blend of the old world and the new. These exhibits will be travelling to various towns in Alberta, and the public will have the opportunity to see these at parks and picnic areas. □

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## RONNING LODGE

By Doreen Anderson  
**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

On June 6 and 7 Camrose will be celebrating their annual **Jay Walkers Jam-boree**. Ronning Lodge has been asked to organize sports events. This year we shall have men's and ladies' horse shoe pitching contests, two man crosscut saw competitions, ladies' bucksaw events and ladies' nail driving contests. Watch your local newspaper for entry forms. All registrations to be sent to **Hansen Construction, 5012 - 50 Ave., Camrose**. We plan to have annual trophies for these events: this is open to the general public.

On Friday, June 6 we shall be holding our annual **Jay Walkers Dance** at the Elks Hall in Camrose. Dancing starts at 9:30 p.m. to the music of **Hoffman's Orchestra**. Admission is \$2.50 per person, lunch included. Everyone welcome.

Friday, June 20 will be a social evening in the Masonic Hall for members only. There will be a potluck supper, initiation of new members and a dance to follow.

Sunday, June 22 at the Camrose Drill Hall, "**Tommy Scott's Family Fun Time Road Show**" sponsored by Ronning Lodge will be held. Star of the show is **Sunset "Kit" Carson**, circus acts, clowns, magic acts, authentic India acts and the **MASKED RIDER**. This is a family show for all ages. First show starts at 2:30; nobody will be turned away. Proceeds of this go to the Ronning Lodge Building Fund. Tickets available from **Cliff's Auto Body Shop, Hansen Construction, and Tom Coultis at the Camrose News and Smoke Shop** or phone **Camrose 672-4391**.

\*\*\*

Our sympathies are extended to Mrs. **Florence Nickolson** and family on the passing of her husband, **Bro. Anton Nickolson**, and to Mr. and Mrs. **Paul Gotaas** on the death of their granddaughter.

Transferred from Lodge 1000, Mr. **Nels Willman** who was a charter member of **Nor Polen** in Edmonton in 1914 and **Terje Viken Lodge** in Camrose in 1929. Mr. **Willman** was given a Life Membership in Ronning Lodge on April 23, 1975.

Card parties have now finished for this season, a good time was had by all as well as realizing a profit of \$149.50 which was given to the Building Fund.

The regular 5-pin bowling wound up with a banquet and dance on May 3 with a number of our members taking home some trophies. The spring league is now going with 8 teams entered. Good luck to you all.

## RONNING JUNIOR LODGE

By David Bouree

Our last meeting was held on May 6. That was our last meeting until Sept. 2, 1975.

On Sat., May 31 at 10:00 a.m. the Junior Lodge held an interior car cleaning event behind the Pacific 66 car wash. The reason was to help cut down the cost of the summer camp fees. Prices were: washing 50¢, vacuuming 50¢, both \$1.00.

We had two new members join at our last meeting. They were **Lois Haugen** and **Shelley Dunham**. We are happy to have you. See you all in the fall. □

This year Ronning Lodge is hosting the Language and Cultural Arts Camp at Mulhurst (25 miles west of Wetaskiwin) on Pigeon Lake. The date set is August 24-31 and registration is \$35.00 per person. There is accommodation for approximately 95 people and trailer space is unlimited. Brochures and applications are being mailed to all lodges or you may contact Mrs. **Helen Link** at 4302 - 52 St., phone 672-2504 or **Roald Torpe** at 5009 - 42 St., phone 672-4135. We are looking forward to seeing you. □

## Multicultural Heritage Centre in Stony Plain

By Debbie Siegel

Our Multicultural Centre provides us with a place where people of different nationalities or backgrounds can meet and share their cultural heritage and encourage a better understanding of them. Through various programs, exhibits, and other activities we can develop and preserve the cultural heritage of this area.

The building being used as the Centre is an old red brick schoolhouse built in 1925. We wanted to use an old building so it was renovated to preserve it in its original shape with some modern conveniences put in. It is operated by the **Heritage Agricultural Society**, in co-operation with the **Parkland Regional Recreation Dept.** Thirty-two communities in the Parkland region supported the idea of this building.

Financial assistance was provided by:

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**  
**Multicultural Programme**  
**PROVINCIAL GOVT.**

**Department of Agriculture**  
**Dept. of Culture, Youth & Recreation**

**COUNTY OF PARKLAND**  
**#31**

**ALBERTA RCMP CENTURY CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE**

## BOWLERS & CURLERS BANQUET

By Helge Nilson

On May 3, Sons of Norway Bowlers and Curlers enjoyed a very pleasant evening at their annual banquet.

The banquet was held at the King Edward Hotel, and presiding at the head table were the following executive personnel and their wives:

**BOWLING PRESIDENT**  
**Ellsworth Halberg**  
**BOWLING SECRETARY**  
**Nels Mjaatveit**  
**CURLING PRESIDENT**  
**Inge Anderson**  
**SOLGLYT LODGE #143**  
**PRESIDENT**  
**Wally Broen**

Bowling trophies were awarded to the following teams:

**FIRST PLACE**

**Norsemen**

Captain **H. Mjaatveit**

**SECOND PLACE**

**Thors - Captain M. Travis**  
**TEAM HIGH SINGLE AND TRIPLE**  
**Vikings**

Captain **Lloyd Steen**

**MEN'S HIGH SINGLE**

**Stab Hansen**

**LADIES' HIGH SINGLE**

**Rosemarie Wifladt**

**MEN'S HIGH TRIPLE**

**John Pittis**

**LADIES' HIGH TRIPLE**

**Lillian Nilson**

**MEN'S HIGH AVERAGE**

**Harry Mjaatveit**

**LADIES' HIGH AVERAGE**

**Doreen Melsness**

Individual curling trophies were awarded to the **McBride** curling team.

**Helge Nilson** introduced the new executive of the Bowling League for the next season 1975-76 which will be as follows:

**PRESIDENT**

**Myrle Travis**

**SECRETARY**

**Reidun Berg** □

**DEPT. OF HEALTH & WELFARE**

**New Horizons**

\*\*\*

**HERITAGE PROGRAMS**

The Pioneer Cabin Room furnished with donations from around the 1900s is being used to conduct the heritage programs for children; and pioneer skills, ethnic cooking for adults. An educational program with emphasis on cultural heritage is available to all Kindergartens, Playschools and Grades 1 to 4 school groups. A maximum of 25 children per group. Tours and demonstrations are also available for adults by phoning **Stony Plain 963-2777** or **963-2660**.

Special demonstrations on pioneer and ethnic skills are being conducted on Thursdays and Saturdays from 1-4 p.m. Also the public is welcome to go through the building during May and June, Thursday and Saturday from 1-4 p.m. During July and August, the Centre will be open daily from 1-4 p.m. with demon-



Presentation of trophies

strations on Saturday and Sunday. There will also be special adult programs. We shall be busing children from different playgrounds, in the county, for the months of July and August to attend our heritage program here, as well as our puppetry and craft program.

\*\*\*

The building is beautiful and the exhibitions are really worth seeing. There are the demonstrations, programs and exhibitions to keep you busy and interested. If you feel like shopping, there is the Handicraft Store.

If your community group or club is interested in supporting the Centre in any way but would like more information on it, then I (**Debbie Siegel**) am willing to come out to give a presentation with slides on the Centre, during the evening or afternoon. Please make an appointment by phoning **Stony**



Plain 963-2660 or 963-2777.

It is a worthwhile place to visit for an evening or an afternoon, so take two hours and come out to see us. We would enjoy having you here. □

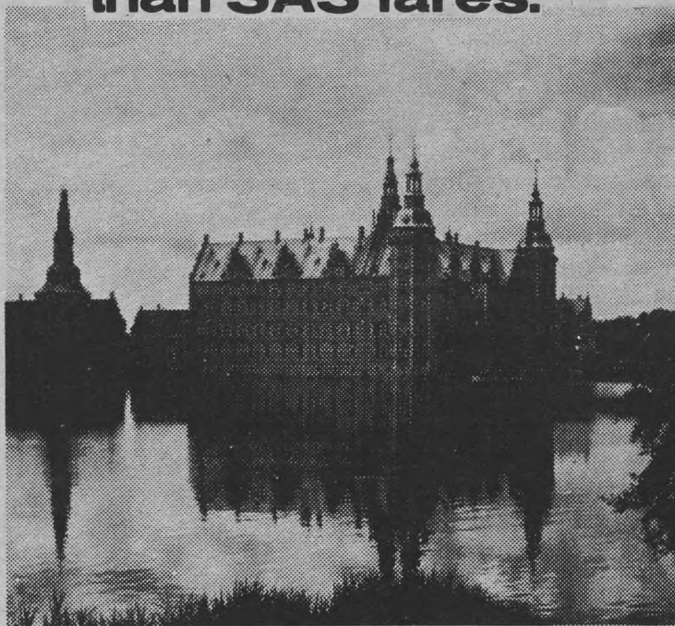
## NATIONAL CONFERENCE

A revision in the deadlines has been necessitated for presentation of submissions for the National Conference on the Canadian Ethnic Mosaic to be held in Winnipeg in late October of this year. The tentative program calls for a session titled "Perspectives on Ethnic Pluralism" to be held on Friday, October 24. The following day, sessions are scheduled to deal with "Minority migration and minority policy", "Child development and ethnic self identity", and "Pluralism and Identity". On Sunday, October 26, two sessions centred on the Quest for Identity theme will deal with

Continued on Page 7

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## NEWS FROM ANSGAR LUTHERAN

By Pastor Holger Madsen

A wide variety of congregational events are on the June calendar at Ansgar. On June 1 at 8 p.m. there will be a special evening reception for our new Confirmands. Our special feature for that evening will be a half-hour movie titled, "The Anniversary". This movie focuses on three important problems of modern day living for a Christian: choosing a vocation, boredom in work, and arranging life priorities. We hope that many of our members will make a point of taking this social night in.

On June 6 and 7 our Youth Group will be having a windup camp-out at Long Lake. We shall meet at the church at 6 p.m. on Fri., June 6, and return to the city by 8 p.m., June 7. Here again we shall be calling on our willing parents to provide transportation for our youth.

On June 15 at 2 to 3 p.m., we shall have our Annual Congregational picnic at Bent Jensen's farm, just east of Sherwood Park. (Same location as last year.) This

is an opportunity for all ages to get together for a day of sports and fellowship. We shall have a number of competitive races set up, plus, of course, the softball game between the young people and the adults. This seems to bring out the best (or the worst) in everyone. Plan to pack a picnic lunch and join us for a good afternoon.

Then on June 27, we shall be having a "Potluck Smorgaasbord" at Evergreen Acres (the pastor's place). To this event everyone is invited to bring a plate of something to eat, with your whole family, of course, as well as your favorite lawn game, darts, horse-shoes, badminton racquets, etc. Ansgar Men's Club will be supplying the coffee and pop. Oh, yes, do bring your own plates and utensils. We shall supply the cups.

So all in all, June sounds like a busy and interesting month. A month in which there are numerous opportunities for good family fun, and Christian fellowship. Do come and do bring your friends. □

Continued from Page 6

### CONFERENCE

the native peoples and the ethnic minorities respectively. For further information and suggestions please write either to Leo Dreidger, Program Chairman, or Rita Bienvenue, Local Arrangements Chairperson, Department of Sociology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Man. R3T 2N2. □

### WESTERN CANADIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE

The Seventh Annual Western Canadian Studies Conference was hosted once again by the Department of History, University of Calgary, March 7-8, 1975. The general theme of the conference was the settlement of the Canadian West. The first session considered the trial of Louis Riel; the second, the politics of immigration and settlement policies, and the third session dealt with literature and art during the settlement period. Subsequent sessions considered the process of settlement and the changes in settlement patterns. Banquet speaker was Wilfrid Eggleston, author of "Homestead on the Range", a personal memoir of homesteading on the prairies. The papers presented will most likely be published. Of particular interest to Scandinavians will be "The Scandinavian Experience on the Prairies, 1890-1915", by Jorgen Dahlie (Education—UBC).

### FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

June 1-5 Canadian Political Science Association, Annual

Meeting. Location: University of Alberta, Edmonton. Contact: Professor Rita Archer, CPSA, Department of Political Science, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ont. K1G 6N5.

### May/June

Meetings of the Canadian Learned Societies. Location: University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alta. Special Interest: Individual sessions dealing with ethnicity and ethno-cultural communities. Dates of meetings of Canadian Historical Association to be announced.

### June 2-8

First annual meeting of Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada. Location: University of Alberta, Edmonton. Contact: Martin Eli Weil, Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada, Box 2935, Station D, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5W9. Theme: Ethnic Architecture on the Prairies. Special Interest: Papers and discussion on architecture of Scandinavian, Icelandic, Ukrainian, Doukhobor, Hutterite, Menonite, Chinese and English communities; tours of architecture of Edmonton, Calgary and intervening communities.

### June 20-23

Conference on Communication Arts, Canadian Authors Association. Location: University of Alberta, Edmonton. Theme: Region and heritage. □

### Books and Articles

Some multicultural publications of the Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies (published as its Papers) during 1974:

**NORWEGIAN SETTLERS IN ALBERTA** by Jan Harold

## DANIA DOINGS



### DANIA SOCCER

By Tage Aaquist

The 1975 soccer season opened for Dania on Sunday, May 4 when they played against the Edmonton Thistles, losing with a score of 2-0.

The second game of the season was played against M.F.C. Edmonton who defeated Dania 1-0. In this game Arne Jensen received a knee injury and may be unable to play for some time.

Dania's losing streak continued through the third game of the season which was played on May 13 against Northwest United. In this game, Dania scored three goals, two in their own net and one (scored by Steve Pawlik) in their opponents net. (Thank you, Steve, too bad the other one wasn't). The final score was 2-1. Also as a result of this game, Erik Petersen contracted a leg injury and will be unable to play for the rest of the season. The remainder of the game was played with ten players on the Dania team.

The June games are:

Mon., June 9 at 7:30

Edmonton Thistles vs Dania

Sun., June 15 at 1:00

Dania vs M.F.C. Edmonton

Tues, June 17 at 7:30

Northwest United vs Dania

Sun., June 29 at 3:00

Croatia vs Dania

All games to be played at Clark Stadium. Any new players interested in playing for the club in these games are asked to contact Tage Aaquist at 475-3520.

At 4 p.m. after the June 15th game, the team will meet in Kinsman Park to play a game against Dania's "old timers". Everyone is invited to come and watch the fun and to bring their children, pets and picnic baskets. □

Brunvand. 71 pp., 31 photographs. 75¢.

A preliminary study of the ethno-cultural traditions of Norwegian settlers in the Camrose area, Alberta.

\*\*\*

**DANISH SETTLEMENTS ON THE CANADIAN PRAIRIES: FOLK TRADITIONS, IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCES, AND LOCAL HISTORY** by Frank M. Paulsen. 114 pp., 1 map. \$1.50.

Fieldwork carried out during the summer of 1972 in the towns of Dickson, Dalum, Standard and Markerville, Alberta; Redvers, Saskatchewan; and Ostfeld, Manitoba revealed that viable Danish-Canadian oral tradition exists primarily in terms of local history and personal narrative.

\*\*\*

THE LION, MAY 1975, contains a six-page article and photo story on the "Race for Light", the international skiing event for the blind which took place in Colorado on February 23, 1975. Published by Lions International, York and Cermak Roads, Oak Brook, Ill. 60521, U.S.A.

\*\*\*

NOROIL is a monthly magazine on the oil industry published in Stavanger. Its articles are all printed in both Norwegian and English. Noroil is considered a leader in its field and has subscribers in 12 countries. Annual subscription: \$24 by regular mail, \$30 by air mail, to Noroil Publishing House, N-4000 Stavanger, Norway.

THE NORWEGIANS, by Arthur Spencer. This new volume in the "How They Live and Work" series provides a lot of information in short, lucid chapters. The author, a retired diplomat who has known Norway for three decades, says in his foreword that "for the first time for centuries, the country is both independent and rich. Yet the world has scarcely woken up to the land and people that are Norway today". (David & Charles, London, pp. 147, illustrated, price 2.95 pounds sterling.)

\*\*\*

**SKIING TRADITIONS IN NORWAY** by Olav Bø tells about the origins of skiing, as long ago as the time of

Continued on Page 8

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## FINNISH SOCIETY

s y s

By Elmer Kankkunen

Our Vappu Dance held May 3 at the Scandinavian Centre turned out to be one of the best ever, according to many of the old timers. For once everything seemed to go right for us.

The so-called potluck supper was great, but it was not trusted to luck, it was very well planned by Mrs. Irja Kuusela who, in turn, received full support from the membership in the form of donations of all kinds of delicious Finnish dishes.

Many thanks to the people who showed up to decorate the hall and special thanks to Les Greenham who did a super job of promoting our dance on the Saturday morning CFCW Scandinavian Show. Les' enthusiasm seems to rub off on the rest of us. At any rate, Finns came from as far away as Calgary to the south and Rich Lake, located over 100 miles northeast. We also had a good turnout from the other Scandinavian groups. All I can say is, I trust you had a good time and please excuse us for whatever lapses in translation there might have been and welcome back next year.

In addition to dining and dancing, the Finnish choir under the direction of Matti Erkkila sang several songs and trophies were also presented to winners of fishing and skiing competitions.

Mr. Martti Vanhapelto, folk dance teacher from Thunder Bay, Ontario, was on hand to urge members of the Edmonton Finnish community to attend the annual Finnish Grand Festival. Martti and his wife, Helli, put on a short demonstration of Finnish folk dancing.

In private talks afterwards, Mr. Vanhapelto mentioned that he was quite impressed with the beauty of our Scandinavian Centre and the healthy, enthusiastic atmosphere in our club. He was surprised at the calibre of our small choir and felt

that they should seriously consider participating in the Festival.

Mr. Vanhapelto spent considerable time on May 3 and 4 teaching members the group numbers for the Festival folk dancing.

A group of friends held a surprise party for Mr. Manu Maki on his 80th birthday. They presented him with a colour television which, incidentally, went on the fritz after about 15 minutes operation. However the set was promptly repaired and Manu is enjoying the gift and wishes to thank all those who remembered him on his birthday.

Several members of the Finnish Society, along with many representatives from the other Scandinavian groups, spent a pleasant evening at the Klondike Directors' meeting May 13, hosted by the Scandinavian Centre. Klondike directors and their wives were treated to a Scandinavian style snack prepared jointly by the five ethnic groups. Klondike Mike (Bob Breen) was on hand to greet directors and guests alike but alas Chico his mule was absent.

\*\*\*

At a meeting of the Society executive held May 15 at the Kaneiva residence, it was decided that a limited number of members would be provided with some financial assistance to defray travelling expenses for participating in the Finnish Grand Festival at Thunder Bay. It was felt that we would not be able to put together a suitable folk dancing group in the short time remaining; however members and choir members in particular would be able to participate in activities. So if you are interested, particularly as to activities, financial assistance, etc., are available from Pentti Sipari, president. It would be preferable that you contact him as soon as possible, no later than June 4, 1975.

## COMING EVENTS

Juhannus Celebration — to be held June 20-22 at the Mulhurst Bible Camp

at Pigeon Lake together with the Calgary Finns. I understand the Mulhurst Bible Camp grounds will be available to us from Friday evening, June 20 to noon, June 22. You can bring your own tent or trailer or rent a cabin. Good beach for swimming, sauna, fishing and other competitions. Directions and additional details will be available shortly from members of the executive.

**Finnish Grand Festival June 27-29 at Thunder Bay, Ontario.** A great variety of activities includes choir singing, folk dancing, theatrical performances, track and field sports, soccer, chess, 10 pin bowling, Finnish style baseball, Finnish Art and Handicraft displays, etc., etc. □

Continued from Page 7

## SKI TRADITIONS

the Norse Sagas, and how the ski-tracks later spread from Morgedal, Telemark, over Norway and out into the world. The richly illustrated book gives a fascinating introduction to the adventure of skiing, in a context of cultural history. (Det Norske Samlaget, Trondheim, 15, Oslo 1, Norway. pp. 126, Kroner 33.—about \$6.60).

\*\*\*

Nordisk Tidende in Brooklyn, N.Y., has published a Travel Section in English with a wealth of information about Norway: pictures, informative articles including "Coming Events in Norway". This "Travel in Norway", published every year, has 64 standard newspaper pages. If you want to obtain a copy, mail in your order, including \$1 for mailing and handling, to: Norse News, 8104 - 5th Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11209, U.S.A. □

## EMIGRATION SEMINAR

A seminar titled "150 years of Norwegian-American friendship" will be arranged July 9-13 at the Fredheim Folk High School at Rognan near Bodø, North Norway.

In their invitation, the organizers say that the seminar is intended as "a gathering of Norwegian-Americans, open to one and all on both sides of the Atlantic". Among the subjects to be discussed are "The old country and the emigrant", "The development of the Norwegian community in America" and "Ole Rølvaag and other emigrants from North Norway".

Participants will be housed in the Folk High School's dormitory and all meals will be provided by the school. The price for the seminar, including board and room, amounts to 500 kroner (\$100).

Further information may be obtained from Fredheim folkehøgskole, 8250 Rognan, Norway, or from Bennet Travel Bureau, 8000 Bodø, Norway. □

## THE STAVANGER FESTIVITIES

The celebrations in Stavanger on July 4 of the 150th anniversary of the sailing of the sloop, "Restauration", with the first party of Norwegian immigrants to America will be attended by King Olav V and Crown Prince Harald and Crown Princess Sonja. The royal guests will arrive in Stavanger aboard the royal yacht, "Norge", and will be greeted by the vessel, "Anna", a sister ship of the "Restauration".

King Olav will open an exhibition on Norwegian emigration to the United States at the Stavanger Museum and then attend a special service in the 850-year-old Stavanger Cathedral. Later in the day, he will be the main speaker at a large public meeting in Misjonshallen (the Hall of Missions). □

## MOLDE JAZZ FESTIVAL

Molde, a west coast town with a population of 20,000 and spectacular natural surroundings, will host its 15th annual international jazz festival this summer July 26-August 2. Since this year's festival coincides with the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Norwegian emigration to America, there will be a special Sesquicentennial program at the outdoor Romsdal Museum in Molde. Also, as part of a mini-film festival, the United States Embassy in Oslo will present films commemorating the first Norwegian immigration.

The first jazz concert of the 1975 festival will feature Norway's noted singer, Karin Krogh, who has performed in several foreign countries and recorded with Norwegian and foreign jazz groups. American artists include gospel singer Marion Williams and the groups "Oregon" and "Joe Newman & Friends". Norwegian tenor saxophonist Jan Garbarek, voted "Tenor Player of the Year" in Europe last year, will perform with his quartet. Art exhibits, poetry and folk and ballad singing are other elements in the 1975 Molde Festival.

Information about program and tickets may be obtained from Molde International Jazz Festival, Postboks 261, 6401 Molde, Norway. □

## IMMIGRATION PHOTO EXHIBIT PLANNED

As part of the Norwegian-American Immigration Sesquicentennial this year, a photo exhibit called "With Our Hands and Mind" is being planned in Chicago, Ill., to feature some 150 photos illustrating the Norwegian immigration experience. The exhibit will be opened October 16 by Norway's King Olav V. It will be held in Chicago's Brunswick Building and is sponsored by the Norwegian - American Immigration Anniversary

Commission with support from the Norwegian Foreign Ministry. The exhibit will later tour the United States and Norway and will also be seen during the United States Bicentennial in 1976.

While the organizers have obtained a large number of historical photographs, the collection is not yet complete. The Scandinavian Centre News readers are asked to look through family albums for pictures showing Norwegians at work, at leisure or at worship. If other sources of photographs are available, the organizers would appreciate hearing about it. The exhibition will be divided into three eras: 1825-1860, 1860-1890 and 1890-1975. All pictures will be returned and persons sending pictures will receive credit in an exhibition catalog. The owners of the selected photographs will be given full credit in the exhibit. Please contact the Exhibition Chairman:

Jon Thallaug  
Marina City West  
300 N. State Street  
Chicago, Ill. 60610, U.S.A. □

## EMIGRATION STAMPS

In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of Norwegian immigration to the United States the Norwegian Post Office will issue two new stamps on July 4 in the denominations of 125 øre and 140 øre. Themes from emigration history will be the motifs of the stamps and the first-day covers, both designed by graphic artist S. Morken.

The price of the first-day cover is 3.65 kroner (73 cents). Orders, which must reach Oslo not later than June 10, may be addressed to:

Det norske Postmannslag  
Østenfjeldske krets  
Postboks 1078, Sentrum  
N-Oslo 1, Norway.

Payment should be made by certified cheque or one issued by a bank. □

## EMIGRATION MEDAL

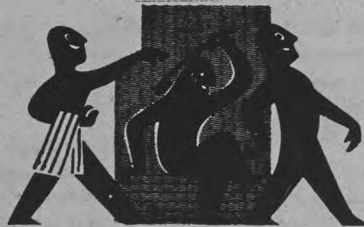
The first issues of the official medal commemorating the 150th anniversary of Norwegian emigration to the United States have been presented to the Royal Family at a ceremony at the Royal Palace in Oslo. First issues were also presented to the President of the Storting, Guttorm Hansen, Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund and the United States Ambassador to Norway, Thomas R. Byrne.

The medal was designed by the sculptor, Nils Aas. Bearing the motto, "Stones—Bread", it shows on the one side, stones symbolizing the rocky shores and the poverty left behind by the first emigrants, and on the other side, waving wheat fields symbolizing the riches they found in America.

The bronze medal—boxed, with a stand and an explanatory text—has been minted in a limited edition and is now for sale to the public at a price of \$30, Continued on Page 9

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If you have a home freezer, a few careful minutes of planning can save you hours over the week. There is no better way to insure that fix-ahead foods are health-giving and retain the vitamins and minerals so important for your family than to freeze them.

Are you in a baking mood? Bake an extra batch of your family's favorite cookies and freeze them in individual bags for lunches. Do you dread daily shopping? Shop less often and let your freezer help you save both time and money as you select the best foods when seasonally abundant.

\*\*\*

### THREE -WAY OATMEAL COOKIES

(Basic Dough)

- 1 1/2 cups shortening
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 teaspoons flavoring
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon soda
- 6 cups rolled oats or rolled wheat

Mix in order listed and divide dough into three parts. To one part add 2 cups chocolate chips; to the second part add 2 cups butterscotch bits; and to the third add 1 cup raisins and 1 cup chopped nuts. Spoon onto baking sheets.

Bake at 350°F for 12 minutes. Cool. Place in

freezer bags and freeze. Cookies will thaw in just a few minutes, as fresh as when you baked them.

### MEAT AND MUSHROOM LOAF

- 1 1/2 lbs. ground beef
- 1/2 lb. ground sausage meat
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1/2 cup tomato catsup
- 1/2 package onion soup mix
- 1 can condensed mushroom soup

#### Canned sliced mushrooms

Mix ingredients, except mushrooms and catsup, and press into loaf pan or casserole dish lined with foil. Garnish with the mushrooms and top with catsup. Cover with foil and freeze. Before baking, allow to thaw 1 1/2 hours. Place in 350°F oven for 1 1/2 hours. Serve with baked potatoes.

\*\*\*

### UNBAKED ROCKY ROAD SQUARES

- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 squares semisweet chocolate
- 1 cup icing sugar
- 1 beaten egg
- 1/2 cup fine coconut
- 1 cup miniature marshmallows
- 1/2 cup walnuts
- Graham wafers

Melt the butter and chocolate, add egg and icing sugar, blend until fluffy. Then add coconut, marshmallows and walnuts. Line the bottom of an 8" pan with whole graham wafers. Spread the mixture on the wafers, then crumble a few wafers on top. Keep in the fridge.

□

Continued from Page 8

### EMIGRATION MEDAL

postage paid. Orders, accompanied by personal cheque, may be sent to: Nordmanns-Forbundet (Federation of Norsemen) Rådhusgt. 23 B. Oslo 1, Norway.

### RESEARCH IN NORWAY

A collection of articles from the 1974 issues of the Norwegian journal, *Forskningssnytt* (Research News) translated into English has been published by the Foreign Ministry in co-operation with Norwegian research agencies. Titled "Research in Norway 1974", the publication includes the following articles:

**Erling Fjellbirkeland:** Some key facts in the 1974 Norwegian research policy issue.

**Sverre Marstrander:** Archeological finds confirm the Saga accounts of Vinland.

**Arne Sund:** Mortality and morbidity after excessive

stress.

**Eva Nordland:** Active children fail to thrive in a cramped environment.

**Leif Einar Plahter:** Norwegian oil paintings of the Middle Ages.

**Ola v Gjaerevold:** Svalbard — the ecological "Galapagos" of the Arctic.

A limited number of copies of "Research in Norway 1974" are available from the Norwegian Information Service in the United States on a first come-first served basis. Also, some copies of the 1973 issue are available.

□

### A WORD FROM GEORGE BONAVIA

A Special Joint Committee of Parliament on Immigration Policy is holding meetings in all provinces, and in cities and towns of different sizes and with different problems, between the end of April and mid-June 1975.

During these visits the Special Committee will meet

organizations and individuals. It also plans to invite provincial governments and municipal authorities to discuss their views, their experiences and their problems in all matters related to immigration.

To ensure that all Canadians know of the Committee's interest in receiving written submissions, advertisements have been placed in major daily papers in both official languages, and in many other languages in the ethnic press. Announcements were carried on radio stations in English and French and on stations broadcasting in other languages.

The Committee wishes to encourage organizations and individuals to respond to this invitation.

The deadline for the receipt of submissions has been extended to June 6, 1975.

The Committee is to complete its report by July 31 this year.

"Focus on Immigration" this month pinpoints a few vital matters which the Green Paper raises for consideration.

□

### THE GREEN PAPER—A POSITIVE STEP TOWARDS THE REVIEW OF IMMIGRATION OBJECTIVES

By George Bonavia

The Green Paper on Immigration and Population has aroused the interest of the Canadian public and many groups have organized or sponsored meetings, discussions, seminars and conferences in various centres across Canada. Now the Special Joint Committee on the Immigration Policy, established to consider the Green Paper, is holding meetings across Canada seeking the views of Canadians on immigration. The present Canadian Immigration Act was adopted by Parliament 23 years ago, in 1952, and is the outgrowth of legislation dating back to the turn of the century. During the life of the present Act, there have been 13 Ministers responsible for immigration and all have made references to the pressing need for a new legislative structure to provide the country with a statutory basis for an immigration policy suited to contemporary conditions and demands of the future.

The present Minister of Manpower and Immigration, the Hon. Robert Andras, took definite steps to bring about a profound review of basic immigration objectives within the framework of a comprehensive demographic approach, one that would involve a more prolonged effort engaging both the provincial governments and the Canadian people in a hard look at long term goals and objectives. In September 1973, the Minister announced the Task Force to study the immigration and population policy and subsequently the

Green Paper was tabled in the House of Commons on February 3, 1975.

The Green Paper represents for the first time that a Canadian government has placed before the public a full and detailed account of how Canada's immigration program operates, together with an evaluation of its successes and the strains to which it is subjected. It attempts at the same time to look into the future, analyzing the problems with which an effective and equitable system must come to terms in the light of contemporary conditions, both international and domestic. And finally, it attempts, more frankly and completely than has been tried before, to examine the immigration process from the perspective of longer-range national goals — economic, social, cultural and demographic.

Speaking to the "Special Joint Committee on the Immigration Policy", on April 9, 1975 the Hon. Robert Andras touched on a number of major issues and problem areas which the committee will be able to examine and clarify during the course of its hearings across Canada. He said:

"I am very conscious of the extremely wide range of complex and interrelated issues raised by the Green Paper which your Committee will wish to go into in detail. I look forward keenly to the results of your work, and to your findings as regards the attitudes of Canadians across the country on these issues—attitudes which will, I am sure, portray very considerable differences of emphasis from one community and from one region to another. Your findings will prove of inestimable value to me and my Department, in developing policy proposals and the new legislative framework on which those proposals will be

## STEPHAN G. STEPHANSSON SOCIETY

By L. K. Johnson

The Calgary, Edmonton and Markerville Icelandic Clubs will hold the annual picnic and dance at Markerville on June 14, 1975.

It will start at 12 noon and those attending are asked to bring a picnic lunch. Coffee will be served and there will be two concessions.

\*\*\*

Plans are going forward for Aug. 6 when club members will host a tour and entertain a farm group of 147 from Iceland.

\*\*\*

The Theatre Group from Iceland will put on a performance in the Red Deer Memorial Centre on Aug. 9.

\*\*\*

The dedication of the Stephan G. Stephansson Homestead as an Historic Site will take place on Aug. 10, 1975.

\*\*\*

When you come to Markerville this summer, look for the Historic Sites sign which will be placed just off Highway 54, at the Markerville turn off.

\*\*\*

Our president, Joe Johannson, is very busy these days organizing the summer events that will be held in this Centennial Year at Markerville.

□

grounded. I know that you will be giving much thought to the salient questions which you wish to address, and to the priorities you wish to accord given subject areas. The list of questions is a formidable one."

Here are some of the  
Continued on Page 10

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NEW RECORD

Olaf Sveen has another new recording out called "Evergreens". The music consists mostly of pieces people have been asking for at his promotions and which includes "Life in the Finland Woods" which, he claims, gives it the Cordovox sound. "Pols" is from Nordmore and is old Hardanger fiddle music; and "Scandia Polka" is one which he wrote himself—"it is sort of dedicated to Edwin Erickson's Skandia Music Studio in Drayton Valley."

The most requested numbers on the recording are probably "Blue Skirt Waltz" and "Over the Waves Waltz", and not to forget "Now Is the Hour". But pieces like "Tiny Bubbles", "Tie a Yellow Ribbon" and others have been asked for many times.

Olaf says he was trying to make this record one with everything on it, and he hopes it will be a success like the "hamburgers kids like so much"—those hamburgers which have everything on it.

The girl on the cover is his lovely daughter, Lillian, who has just turned sixteen in May.

"Evergreens" is obtainable on London recording either stereo LP or 8 track cartridge.

SESIQUICENTENNIAL BRIEFS

The Norwegian-American Historical Association will celebrate its 50th anniversary on September 27 at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. It has some 1,100 members.

\*\*\*

The Choir of Augsburg College in Minneapolis is touring Norway May 17-June 11 as part of the Sesquicentennial celebrations at the invitation of Nordmanns-Forbundet (Federation of Norsemen). Under its director, Dr. Leland B. Sateren, the choir opened its tour performing at a Sesquicentennial festival matinee at the National Theatre in Oslo on Norway's Constitution Day, May 17.

\*\*\*

Governor Dan Walker of Illinois has designated Osmund Orland as Illinois' official representative at the celebrations in Stavanger on July 4 commemorating the sailing in 1825 of the "Restauration" with the first party of Norwegian immigrants to the United States. Norwegian-born Osmund Orland is commissioner of public property in Aurora, Ill.

\*\*\*

The Norwegian Society of Texas has been founded in Dallas with more than

100 persons attending the first meeting. President of the society is Carl W. W. Sorenson. A statewide membership drive is being organized. For further information: The Norwegian Society of Texas, P.O. Box 5176, Dallas, Texas 75222, U.S.A.

Continued from Page 9

GREEN PAPER

vital matters which the Green Paper raises for discussion:

- Population goals (rate of growth, distribution—implications for regional development, urban growth, land use policy)
- Refugee policy
- Illegal immigration
- Immigration and Canada's linguistic balance
- Services to immigrants
- Selection criteria
- Relationship between immigration policy and Canada's relations with the developing world, including Canadian aid objectives
- The appeal system
- Deportations and detentions
- The social and economic adaptation of immigrants
- The equitable distribution of visa offices abroad
- The development of consultative arrangements, (including the role of the provinces) and input from interested organizations
- The place of the non-immigrant in Canada's labour force.

These are just a few of the most important questions Canadians should devote their attention to in putting forward their views on what the future immigration policy and population of Canada should be to serve the best interest of Canada and Canadians and the world community.

Continued from Page 4

BACK TO CANADA

and it was taken for granted that this was the way to behave.

I heard about one place where the lady of the house had just scrubbed the wooden floor so it was nearly white, and she had even put some spruce needles on the floor to make it smell good. In comes this maniac with a whole new box of Copenhagen and starts up a conversation with the man of the house. But the lady noticed the man had a tendency to spit to the left, so she put a shiny spittoon over there. Right away the man starts spitting to the right, but the lady tactfully moves the spittoon to that side, but then he starts spitting in a leftish direction again. This moving the spittoon and spitting beside it goes on for quite awhile, till the man finally says: "Lady, if you don't take away that fancy dish of yours, I might spit in it, so help me God."

Now we know that there was an awful lot of TB in Norway at the time, some-

times called an epidemic. We can't say that not spitting on the floor is a cure for TB, but it helps stopping the disease from spreading. It can be said that mankind has been groping in the dark till they have discovered the light. Today cancer is bad, maybe we are doing something basically wrong to give the disease a chance, who knows? And if we finally find out what it is, we shall say, why didn't we think of that before? The same with heart trouble, there is a side valley to Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, where nobody has ever had a heart attack and medical science is trying to find out why.

Sitting meditating like that makes the time fly and soon we are approaching Blaine, the last town on the U.S. border. We are heading for Surrey, and that is the largest municipality in all of British Columbia. A whole bunch of happy people live there, among them my friend, "Swede" Johnson, who has established himself right by the Fraser River. I hope he will eventually move away from there. He not only lives by the river, but part of his establishment is right on top of the river, and if he is not careful when he gets older he might end up in the river. "Swede" is an old accordion player and belongs to the Brotherhood of Squeeze-box Operators. For a Scandinavian he lives in a real fresh location and he is right by one of the best salmon rivers in the world.

At one house, they had a real cute little pomeranian pup. They called him "Sooner". The reason was probably because he would sooner do it on the floor than go outside and do it. There are a lot of animals in Surrey. They have a zoo where they even keep kinkajous, if anybody is interested in seeing a kinkajou.

Across the river we have New Westminster and it says in "Guide to Vancouver" that New Westminster was the first capital of the province of British Columbia, and a little further on in the book I read that Fort Langley served in early years as British Columbia's first capital. It is a fairly dry book and sticks strictly to facts. One of the most well-known personalities to come out of New Westminster must be Raymond Burr, the crime fighter in a wheelchair on TV. Gunnar's Scandinavian Foods is on Front Street and it is just like a little bit of Norway featuring many Norwegian food items such as gjetost, gammelost, flat-brod, jams made of lingonberries, cloudberries (multer) and much, much more, and a big collection of souvenirs to pick from. It is always pleasant to go to Gunnar's and have a little chat with Karin and Aage. I also go and see Karle Hadsin at Empire Music

Publishers. He publishes mainly Canadian composers. He puts out mainly regular and old-time music, and probably got hurt when rock and roll came in so strong. But even so he has a big business. He showed me around one time and it is hard to believe how much printed music he has stored in the building, and then he told me he has two more warehouses. So there must be lots of interest for his music yet. Karle told me that at one time he was selling thirty accordions a month, or about one a day. Now he is lucky if he sells one a month, exactly the opposite of what I discovered in Norway last summer—there the interest for the accordion is greater than ever. But of course there is a lot more accordion on TV over there. What we see of accordion playing on TV around here is mostly done by Myron Floren, and as we know: One swallow does not make a summer. The same thing goes on on radio—a person can listen to quite a bit of accordion music on Norwegian radio—at least we have Arnt Haugen's quartet.

The basic difference between "today's" music and "yesterday's" is that now the stress is on the second and fourth beat of the bar, instead of the first and third. This practically eliminates three quarter time, and there go all the waltzes down the drain and it changes the character of melody and rhythm drastically.

It can, of course, be said that in Canada the radio stations are playing what people like to hear, but I believe that, to a certain extent, we are being told what to like. We hear so much about public opinion, but it can also be manipulated. We saw it happen in Europe in the thirties when certain leaders became gods. The multitude has much in common with a flock of sheep, as we can see in the style of dress, how we all try and follow what somebody is telling us to do. Of course it might be a good thing that styles are changing. It would be boring otherwise.

How can it be explained that, for instance, when the waltz, "Nya Wermlandsvalsen", by Karl Jularbo first came out, it became so popular that it was outrageous. It was liked by young and old, and we poor accordion players sat and played that number half of the night at dances. Maybe at the present time it would be just sneered at. "Nya Wermlandsvalsen" is a great composition and very likely will get popular again when people are good and ready for it.

People are fickle and we don't know what they are going to do or what they are going to prefer next. But we do know that they have been changing their likes and

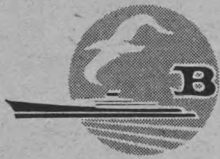
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**BACK TO CANADA**

dislikes in the past. Another thing is that "the wheel that squeaks gets the grease", and the older people are, the less they are apt to squeak about what goes on on radio and TV. And another thing we can't forget is the commercial factor. If it sells, it is good; if it doesn't sell, it is no good.

Also in politics, people want a change once in awhile. The thing to worry about is not to give the power to a regime that doesn't believe in free elections, or let me put it this way: a regime that is scared stiff of free elections. That way a country might get stuck with the same kind of government for a long time and that gets boring.

By now, we are by the B.C. penitentiary in New Westminster. It brings to mind stories I read in my younger days about people being in dungeons, usually innocent persons. I remember especially "The Count of Monte Christo" by Alexander Dumas, one of the best novels of all time. Difficult escapes from penitentiary made a folk hero out of our own Gjest Baardsen. He was in his prime about 150 years ago; he died in 1840, and a movie has been made about his life.

But there are very few heroes, even in jail, and it is mostly sadness. We only have to read the "Gulag Archipelago" to find out.

My friend, Aksel, lives in New Westminster. I first knew him when he was a young teen-ager and was employed at our local summer hotel in Surnadal, Norway. (At an earlier time this hotel had belonged to Sandeman. If that name does not ring a bell, think of Sandeman's Port Wine, still available, and was owned by him). Anyway, when I first knew Aksel it was so long ago that it was before radio came in, and I reckon people were starved for entertainment. My Dad had a gramophone with a hand crank, and one of his records had a fairytale on it. It was about a boy who went out in the woods to pick hazelnuts. He found one with a small hole in it, and then he met the devil. He fooled the devil so he crawled inside the nut and then he plugged the hole with a piece of wood. Next he went to the blacksmith and had him crack the nut by laying it on the anvil and hitting it with a sledgehammer. The record was full of what we today call, sound effects, but we didn't know that, we thought it was for real when the devil screamed when he was hit by the sledgehammer. I still remember the punch line. "I believe the devil was inside that nut", said the blacksmith. "Yes, he was," said the boy.

So one night Aksel and a couple more teen-age boys

came over to listen to this record. (As you see, we were not so spoiled with high-class entertainment in those days. I just wonder how far today the average teen-ager would walk to listen to a recording of a fairytale.) One of the other boys, Endre, became sort of a hero to me later. He produced his own handmade **hardangerfiddle** out of a few pieces of wood, using a Mora knife, but that was later on and is another story. Anyway, there were great expectations in the air when my dad started cranking the gramophone. All of a sudden there was a loud bang, the spring had broken, and the performance was off. The boys went home disappointed but I often wonder, if all had gone smoothly, would I still remember the time when the boys came to listen to "The Devil in the Hazelnut"?

I realize that I have strayed a bit away from New Westminster by now, but I also realize it is time to stop. □

Continued from Page 3

**IMMIGRATION**

long and 10 ells wide (an ell is two feet), which I hope to complete by New Year's day. We then expect winter for a couple of months which will be a good time to haul wood from the forests. When I was in Rochester I bought a stove for 20 dollars with full equipment such as pans, pots for meat, a baking oven, and other things; so we shall not need any fireplace. I have built this house on the land selected for you whose arrival I am awaiting, but in the spring, if the Lord permits me to live, I shall build on my own land. I have 5 acres of land, which is 330 per arec (this may have meant "which costs \$3.30 per acre"), to have ready in the spring to sow and plant. I have a cow in Faningtown (Farmington) which cost me ten dollars, and a few sheep. I have reported the prices of all things in Knud Eie's letter. When I think of my sister and other friends of mine, oh, how I wish that that time were over, and how glad I would be to receive word that you were coming to New York that I might greet you there. I have no doubt that you will be able to journey through the canal very comfortably and at a cheap rate. The Friends in Masedon (Macedon) have promised and said that my sister and the others shall stay with them until we get houses built for them. Well, many persons are buying land in this vicinity; there are many cultivated pieces of land here that we may work on share. It will soon be filled up around here and especially nearest the canal. I must leave everything to Providence; what He wills, you also do. You must not let yourselves be frightened away by talk. I

have found the help of Providence as long as I have kept steadfast in hope; that is all we can do. I have told you everything orally, and I will stand by my promises. Only write me in time, then I will do my best. I talked with many persons in New York about selling the vessel. You will certainly be able to sell a small vessel, but a large one is against the permission of the law. (This remark by Peerson may explain why the "sloop folk" purchased so small a vessel for their voyage.) Therefore do whatever seems best for you. Young persons can easily get over to London and from there to New York for thirty dollars. My friends in New York have promised to do all that is possible to sell the vessel as advantageously as possible. On the other hand, if you could put your money in iron from Sweden and hire a vessel, that would come to the same thing. I hope you will write me a letter as soon as you are ready and let me know of your intentions. Above all, deal with one another in a brotherly spirit. In no wise fail to love one another. Fulfill that. Let us see ourselves as we really are, wretched and feeble, then we shall understand that we always need help and salvation from the hand of the Almighty, then we will heed His call and admonitions. Up to the present time I have been in good health, also my comrade, Andrios Stangeland. Greet all friends there, my father, Søsken (brothers and sisters), friends and all acquaintances there.

Your friend and servant unto death,

Cleng Peerson  
**EARLY EMIGRANT LETTERS**

"I am glad that I came here, though everything has not always gone according to my wishes since I left New York, where I first settled. I and others who have been accustomed to work since we were children think of this as a **Canaan** when we consider the fertile soil, which without the use of fertilizer brings forth fruits of every kind. Norway can no more be compared with America than a desolate waste with a garden in full blossom."

Gjert G. Hovland  
\*\*\*

Four years later he wrote again telling of his one hundred and sixty acre farm renewing his assurance of the great advantages of America, but warned those who expected fortunes to drop in their laps that they would be bitterly disappointed.

\*\*\*

Ole Trovatten later came to be looked upon as an angel of peace, who had gone beforehand to the New World, whence he sent back home to his countrymen, so burdened with economic sorrow, the olive branch of promise, with

assurance of a happier life in America. He was the most talked of man in Upper Telemarken. His letters from America gave a power impulse to emigration and it is provable that hundreds of those who are now plowing the soil of Wisconsin and Minnesota would still be living in their ancestor's domains in the land of Harald Fairhair if they had not been induced to bid Old Norway farewell through his glittering accounts of conditions on this side of the ocean.

"Under no circumstances would I return to live in Ødefjeld, not even if I could be the owner of half the Annex. Ødefjeld is such a wretched place that one ought by no means to live there. Every inhabitant would do better by selling his farm to people from Lower Telemarken. Fertile fields lie uncultivated in America and a 'much better mode of living is open to every honorable citizen. Every poor person who will work diligently and faithfully can become a well-to-do man here in a short time'.

"Although I have been sick almost half a year and have a family to care for,

still have I accomplished more than a worker can do in Norway. I am dissatisfied with the absence of a church in the community where I live. I offer the opinion that the end of the world is drawing near, but I do not believe this certain American sect which has the event timed for the following summer. Every man here has a large number of pigs and also chickens. There are some who have as many as a thousand chickens." What Utopian dreams such a recital must have stimulated!

"Let the man without a 'gaard' come—if only he has the desire, the courage, youth, strength and willingness to work. Room and work are available and the native American will not discourage the Norwegian."

**POEMS AND SONGS OF THE EARLY EMIGRANTS**

Farewell, though Mother Norway, now I must leave thee. Because thou fostered me I give thee many thanks. All too sparingly wert thou in providing food for the throng of thy laborers, though thou gavest more than enough to thy well-schooled

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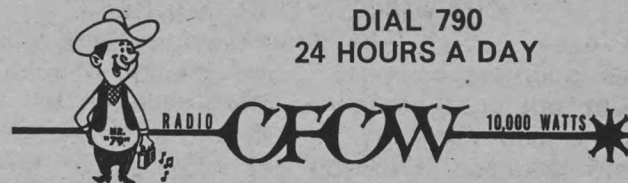
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**IMMIGRATION**

sons.

Farewell, my old spinning wheel. How I shall miss you; the thought of leaving you breaks the heart in my breast. No more in the evenings shall we sit by the fireside, old friend of mine, and gossip together. Ah, all that I see has its roots in my heart. And how they are torn out, do you wonder it bleeds.

My brothers, hear a word of counsel: remain at home here in the friendly North! From a sorrowful heart I beg you to stay here at home, do not sail over yonder. Little do you know what it is you are doing, nor the bitter disillusioning that may be yours. For when you are buried over there in the deep forests or the wilderness, a restless longing will shatter your peace, and you will remember then what now you forget.

**A PREACHER SPOKE THESE WORDS**

Think you that you will find in those new lands to which you go the same music in the streams? The same sun? The same summer? Think you the flower that grew by your mother's cot blooms on foreign shores no less?

Nay, be sure, you will not find it so. For clouds will hide the sun from you, and darkness, the stars. Soon will you forget the speech and customs of your father; and however life may deal with you, you will live an exile always.

You would go to seek for gold? Assuredly, you will find more at home. Dig it out of the soil; that will bring you honor. Wrest it from the depths of the sea and the heart of the mountains, where it glows like burning coals in the darkness.

\*\*\*

Norway is a poor and wretched land, and now I am going to America.

Here I have to slave and suffer want, in America everyone can make a living.

There will I earn riches and glory. Farewell! Farewell! Here we go.

\*\*\*

I am not going to stay in Norway any longer. I am going to America; that's the best thing for me to do. I have heard that men who know how to use their hands can live well over there. Land is cheap and heavy taxes don't eat up everything a farmer makes.

You hear in this country a lot of fine talk about liberty and equality and that the people hold the purse-strings; but the bureaucrats are paid too well, while the common people must struggle along. The government brags about undertakings that must cost a barrel of gold; at the same time economic life is strangled by all sorts of restrictions and crushed by tariffs.

Poor peasant lads are drafted for military service, while the rich man's sons escape. That's Norwegian equality. Have they forgotten about the provision of the constitution? The defense of the kingdom is a duty resting upon all. Shall we never remedy such abuses? Will people stand such things forever?

\*\*\*

Every man with courage in his heart is leaving Norway. America is a glorious country; of that there can be no doubt. True, the Atlantic Ocean is broad, but, my friend, if you can get away, go, for in Norway things are great indeed—but only among the great folk.

**EVENING PRAYER ON THE ATLANTIC**

Night has fallen; the evening breezes hurry our ship toward a foreign shore. But the ties that bind me to home fire my courage and strengthen my soul. Should all things perish—fleeting as a shooting star—O God, let not the ties break that bind me to the North.

Farewell, Norway, and God bless thee. Stern and severe wert thou always, but as a Mother I honor thee, even though thou skimmed my bread. All things vanish. Grief and care sink down upon the heart; still the memory of thee refreshes the soul like the deep sleep of a child.

Other lands offer me independence, and for my labor, well-being to my children. These, O Norway, thou didst not give me, for thou art a land of lords and slaves, where the great ones rule and we obeyed.

Once more, God, bless thee; to the day of my death. I will pray God to keep thee; for thou wert the keeper of my childhood and the joys of childhood thou gavest me. I will remember thee always, whatever life may bring, and I will pray, "Throw off the chains that embittered my youth for me."

\*\*\*

Such were the letters, songs and poems of the early Norwegian emigration. It led to the door to future emigration responding in its rise and fall to the swings of economic conditions in Norway and America. One characteristic nature of the emigration seems that folk from various little areas of Norway migrated together and set up never-ending settlements of "New Norway" in America; who are still proud of their country and continuing throughout generations to keep up their rich culture and heritage.

"Ya, vi elsker dette landet."

□

Continued from Page 1

**MOTHER OF YEAR**

selecting the Mother of the Year, however the wisdom of their choice was instantly confirmed when we met Mrs. Hansen and her family. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have three sons, ages 9, 11 and 13.

The winning letter was submitted by 11-year-old Paul. Upon meeting Mrs. Hansen it was easy to see why young Paul would be inspired to writing letters of praise about his mother. Paul's letter and the many other letters are testimonials to the fact that there are many wonderful Scandinavian mothers in Alberta. To all you boys and girls who sent letters, thank you for your interest and better luck next year!

□

Continued from Page 1

**MOOSE JAW CLUB**

crew of eight Vikings. All ethnic groups, represented in our Multicultural Council, are expected to participate in the parade.

Every day of Canada Week is filled with interesting programs. Our next participation will be in the Folkloric Festival, held two evenings, June 26 and 27. Each ethnic group is allotted a certain time on the program. The Scandinavian Club has been given twenty or twenty-five minutes each evening. Saturday the 28th will feature the International Smorgasbord and Dance. This will conclude our actual participation in Canada Week. Sunday, June 29 is the big Air Show at the Moose Jaw Air Base.

Our plans for the summer include a picnic, and later in the fall we hope to have another Scandinavian Smorgasbord.

Many of our members have expressed a wish to learn one of the languages, so we are trying to obtain material for a language class in the fall. Our Moose Jaw Scandinavian Club is now in the process of being incorporated as a Society. Our Club will include the five Scandinavian groups—Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Finnish and Icelandic. Our present officers are:

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Edward Hjelte  
**VICE-PRESIDENT**  
Odin Vevang  
**2ND VICE-PRESIDENT**  
Kristian Jensen  
**SECRETARY TREASURER**  
Christine Ellingson

□

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**HERITAGE**

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The following committees: Cultural, Education, Grants, Immigration and Human Rights, Language, Media and Youth committees met and came up with numer-

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ous resolutions that were proposed to the Council.

I chose to take part in the Cultural committee meeting and our committee proposed the following resolutions among the others:

1. Resolve that the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council strongly recommends to the Minister that the funding mechanism for multi-cultural projects through the Department of the Secretary of State be decentralized to the regional areas. This resolution implies that approval for funding of smaller projects be authorized at the regional level. However, we recognize that large and expensive projects will require central authorization.

2. Resolve that the Federal Government place more emphasis on developing an understanding of the Canadian Native and Ethno-Cultural backgrounds of the people of Canada by sponsoring leadership conferences, organization promotion as well as the visual and performing arts.

3. Resolve that the Council strongly recommend to our Minister that priority be given to assisting in the documentation, depiction and perpetuity of the heritage

of certain ethnic groups which have been neglected in this regard, e.g. Metis, etc.

4. Resolve that the Minister appoint, through the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council a professional Public Relations Officer whose duties should include:

a) Inter-communications between Canadian Native and Ethnic groups.

b) Promotion of the ethnic fact to the general public through the various media.

c) Arranging for the presentation of outstanding aspects of the living arts from the various countries from which the ethnic groups originate.

d) The office of the Public Relations Officer should receive generous financial support from the department so that its activities can be carried out immediately.

All in all the meeting was very successful—many good ideas came forth. Although the day had been long, we arrived back home after midnight—I felt very rewarded in having been able to talk with people from different cultural backgrounds and especially hearing about the Canadian natives.

□